

Serial No.: 10/070,422
Atty. Docket No.: P67686US0

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A collecting bag for human body wastes comprising:

a bag member ~~(1)~~ formed by two film blanks ~~(2,3)~~ ~~with~~
having joined edges defining the outer contours of the bag member₁;

an inlet opening provided in one of said film blanks ~~(3)~~,
connecting elements ~~(5)~~ surrounding said inlet opening for
connection of the bag ~~to~~ around a body orifice₁;

a discharge portion ~~(6)~~ at a distance from the inlet
opening and including ~~comprising~~ a discharge opening₁;

a closure device ~~(7)~~ at the discharge portion ~~(6)~~ for
closing said discharge opening, said discharge portion having
~~bringing the bag from~~ a discharge position, in which the bag is
open, ~~to~~ and a position of use, in which the bag is closed₁; and

accommodating means ~~(8)~~ for accommodating said closure
device ~~(7)~~ in the position of use of the bag,

~~characterized in that~~

~~—said accommodating means (8) comprises~~ having at least
one open receptacle formed in said bag member ~~(1)~~ within said outer
contours₁ and ~~has~~ a basis portion ~~(9)~~ in which said film blanks
~~(2,3)~~ are undetachably connected to each other, ~~and that the~~ a
periphery ~~(9a)~~ of the basis portion ~~(9)~~ ~~is being~~ situated at a

Serial No.: 10/070,422
Atty. Docket No.: P67686US0

distance from the joined edges (4) of the bag member (1) and the discharge portion (6) and, when said discharge portion is in said position of use, said closure device overlying said basis portion and fitting within said open receptacle.

2. (Currently Amended) A The collecting bag according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said film blanks (2,3) are connected to each other by ~~means of~~ a heat-sealed joint extending along the periphery (9a) of the basis portion (9).

3. (Currently Amended) A The collecting bag according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said film blanks (2,3) are connected to each other by gluing.

4. (Currently Amended) A The collecting bag according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said accommodating means (8) ~~comprises~~ includes a retaining element ~~means~~ (10) for holding the closure device ~~means~~ (7) in said open receptacle in the position of use of the bag.

5. (Currently Amended) A The collecting bag according to claim 4, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said retaining ~~means~~ element comprises a strip (10) having at least one engagement

Serial No.: 10/070,422
Atty. Docket No.: P67686US0

section for releasable engagement with a corresponding section or corresponding sections on said bag member ~~(1)~~ or on the opposite end of said retaining element means.

6. (Currently Amended) A The collecting bag according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said basis portion ~~(9)~~ has cross-sectional dimensions corresponding to ~~the~~ dimensions of the closure device ~~(7)~~.

7. (New) A collecting bag for human body wastes comprising:
a bag member formed by first and second film blanks having joined edges defining outer contours of the bag member;
an inlet opening provided in one of said film blanks for communication with a body orifice;
a discharge component at a distance from the inlet opening and including a discharge opening and a closure device for closing said discharge opening, said discharge component having a discharge position and an in-use position; and
an open recessed area formed in said bag member by a basis portion, in which said film blanks are undetachably connected to each other, and portions of the first film blank surrounding said basis portion, said recessed area being adjacent said discharge component and fully accommodating said closure device in

Serial No.: 10/070,422
Atty. Docket No.: P67686US0

the in-use position so that said closure device does not protrude outside an arched plane defined by remaining portions of said first film blank.

8. (New) The collecting bag according to claim 7, wherein a periphery of the basis portion is situated at a distance from the joined edges of the bag member and the discharge component.

9. (New) The collecting bag according to claim 8, wherein said film blanks are connected to each other by a heat-sealed joint extending along the periphery of the basis portion.

10. (New) The collecting bag according to claim 7, wherein said closure device is moved toward said inlet opening and overlies said basis portion when said discharge component is in said in-use position.

11. (New) The collecting bag according to claim 7, wherein said film blanks are connected to each other by gluing.

12. (New) The collecting bag according to claim 7, further comprising a retaining element for holding the closure device in said open recessed area in the in-use position.

Serial No.: 10/070,422
Atty. Docket No.: P67686US0

13. (New) The collecting bag according to claim 12, wherein said retaining element includes a strip having at least one engagement section for releasable engagement with a corresponding section or corresponding sections on said bag member or on the opposite end of said retaining element.

14. (Currently Amended) The collecting bag according to claim 7, wherein said basis portion has cross-sectional dimensions corresponding to dimensions of the closure device.

15. (New) A collecting bag for human body wastes comprising:
a bag member formed by first and second film blanks having joined edges defining outer contours of the bag member;
an inlet opening provided in one of said film blanks for connection of the bag around a body orifice;
an elongated discharge portion extending from said bag member at a distance from the inlet opening and including a discharge opening adjacent a distal end of said discharge portion;
a closure device at the distal end of said discharge portion for closing said discharge opening; and
an open recessed area in said bag member adjacent a proximal end of said discharge portion, said open receptacle formed by a basis portion, in which said film blanks are undetachably

Serial No.: 10/070,422
Atty. Docket No.: P67686US0

connected to each other, and inwardly directed portions of the first film blank surrounding said basis portion;

said bag having a discharge position in which said discharge portion and closure device extend outwardly from said bag member for emptying said bag, and an in-use position, in which said discharge portion is folded toward said inlet opening so that said closure device is fully accommodated within said open recessed area and does not protrude beyond an arched plane defined by remaining portions of said first film blank.

16. (New) The collecting bag according to claim 15, wherein a periphery of the basis portion is situated at a distance from the joined edges of the bag member and the discharge portion.

17. (New) The collecting bag according to claim 15, further comprising a retaining element for holding the closure device in said open recessed area in the in-use position.

18. (New) The collecting bag according to claim 17, wherein said retaining element includes a strip having at least one engagement section for releasable engagement with a corresponding section or corresponding sections on said bag member or on the opposite end of said retaining element.

Serial No.: 10/070,422
Atty. Docket No.: P67686US0

19. (Currently Amended) The collecting bag according to claim 15, wherein said basis portion has cross-sectional dimensions corresponding to dimensions of the closure device.